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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1637

INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE PRIORITY 6428

RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH PRIORITY 4692

RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY PRIORITY 4660

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2018

RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0390

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0817

UNCLAS CANBERRA 000565

SIPDIS

NEA/IR ERICA THIBAULT, NEA, S/SAGSWA, AND P

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: IR AS JA PGOV PHUM PINR PREL PROP PTER CASC

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA ASKS IRANIAN MINISTRIES ABOUT AMCIT

ROBERT LEVINSON

REF: STATE 49083

¶1. (SBU) In reply to the Charge's letter of thanks, reftel, to Foreign Minister Smith for Australia's help in the release of AMCIT Roxana Saberi, Smith's Chief of Staff, Frances Adamson, wrote on June 9: Start text

Thank you for your letter dated 15 May 2009 thanking the Government for its assistance in relation to Ms Roxana Saberi. Mr Smith has asked me to reply to you on his behalf.

The Australian Government was pleased to be able offer assistance in the case of Ms Saberi. The decision of the Iranian Revolutionary Court to reduce her sentence and to allow her to leave Iran was no doubt an enormous relief to Ms Saberi and her family.

In relation to the other two cases you mention, Australia's former Ambassador to Iran, Mr Greg Moriarty, raised the case of Mr Levinson with relevant Iranian ministries. Iranian officials advised they had no information relating to Mr Levinson's whereabouts.

The Government will continue to take appropriate opportunities to raise Mr Levinson's case, as well as the case of Ms Momeni, with the Government of Iran. End text.

CLUNE